

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/BWG:WTCLUVERIUS

APPROVED BY:MDRAPER

S/S:JLHOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184234 TOSEC 190145

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE JUL 25, 1976 FROM
BEIRUT

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6598

EXDIS

HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, LE, US

SUBJECT: BEIRUT EVACUATION: PLO PLOYS

1. DEPARTMENT MAY NOTE FROM NEWS STORIES EMANATING OUT OF BEIRUT THAT PLO IS TAKING LINE HERE WITH AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS THAT PLO HAD CONVEYED TO US SEVERAL DAYS AGO THEIR PREFERENCE FOR SEA OR AIR EVACUATION. WITH REGARD TO OUR CONTACTS WITH PLO SECURITY OFFIVER, THIS IS ABSOLUTELY UNTRUE. NEITHER ON JULY 19, WHEN FIRST POSTPONEMENT WAS ISSUED (BEIRUT 6424), NOR ON JULY 21, WHEN WE PROPOSED SATURDAY, JULY 24, AS AN ALTERNATIVE (BEIRUT 6497) DID PLO CONTACT SUGGEST SEA OR AIR ALTERNATIVE. IN FACT, PLO CONTACT GAVE BRITISH CONSULAR OFFICER THE INFORMATION DURING MEETING ON JULY 22 THAT PLO PREFERRED LAND TO SEA EVACUATION (BEIRUT 6506).

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2. IN OUR 6506, DATED JULY 22 (PAR 3), HOWEVER, WE SPECULATED
THAT PLO MIGHT INDEED PREFER SEA EVACUATION SINCE WEEK OR SO
EARLIER FAROUK QADDOUMI HAD SAID AS MUCH TO EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR.
THIS IS WHY WE HAD CONSIDERED IT ADVISABLE FOR US TO GO BACK TO PLO
AT SOME POINT WITH THIS ALTERNATIIVE PROPOSITION--WHICH, INDEED,
DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTED US TO DO.
SEELYE UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 25 JUL 1976
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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